

From: Harry Dellicker
To: Microsoft ATR
Date: 1/23/02 9:20am
Subject: Microsoft Settlement

To whom it may concern,

I am very concerned about the proposed settlement of the Microsoft antitrust case. PLEASE do not let Microsoft "off the hook" with a simple slap of the hand. This company has been playing dirty for years now. I am totally incensed about their tactics used in squashing Netscape. The Netscape browser is a good piece of software (unlike that security nightmare MS calls Internet Explorer). I believe Netscape could have remained a viable company had it not been for the illegal tactics of Microsoft.

Having been emboldened by the weak response of the government, Microsoft's latest bombshell is a new subscription software scheme whereby they will require companies to pay an annual subscription cost of 29% of the original purchase price of their software licenses. If they choose not to participate, future upgrades will not be possible; they will have to buy all NEW licenses any time they want to "upgrade". In the past we have been able to purchase upgrades at a reduced, upgrade price if and when we felt like it. This is extortion, pure and simple. Microsoft thinks they can get away with it simply because they are virtually the only game in town.

Microsoft has also been guilty for years of putting out poor quality software with little concern for security. We all pay for this every time there is another virus attack which takes advantage of yet another Microsoft software coding error.

Please, Microsoft needs more accountability; not less.

We need a judgment against Microsoft which is truly meaningful.

Sincerely,
Harry Dellicker
Covington, WA

P.S. While I am at it, we also need to change the laws so that companies can sue a software vendor for damages which can be directly attributed to negligence on the part of the software vendor. Only then will these companies start taking security seriously.

Yes, I know about Mr. Gate's new security initiative. I will believe it when I see it. And of course, if and when they have something ready, I'm sure they will be happy to \$ELL it to us.

